

The Bandera PROPHEET

May 11, 2020

Applicants for Bandera City Council being accepted now

By Jessica Nohealapa'ahi Goode
The Bandera Prophet

Bandera City Council members are seeking applicants to fill a vacant seat. The term will expire in November.

Applications will be accepted until May 18, at 5 p.m.

In other business, the City of Bandera and the Bandera County River Authority and Groundwater District will combine efforts to apply for a flood infrastructure flood loan and/or grant through the Texas Water Development Board.

Daniel Oppenheimer, land manager for the non-profit organization Hill Country Alliance, submitted a list of general recommendations for Bandera City Park that includes mitigating floods, reducing erosion, providing high-quality public access and handicap accessibility. Also on the list was riparian management.

Riparian areas refer to the transition zone between water and the land, Oppenheimer said. The area usually makes up about 1 to 2 percent of the landscape, but provides a number of values such as riverbank stability and habitat for fish and other wildlife.

"I commend you for getting ahead of this," BCRAGD General Manager Dave Mauk said.

Council members approved funding for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Feasibility Report from LNV Engineering not to exceed \$40,000. The study will review flood impacts and possible mitigation alternatives, as well as identify options for conveying wastewater to a prepared site. Presented by LNV Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer Derek Naiser, the WWTP report addresses a citation issued by TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality).

Naiser also updated council on the city's street condition survey. He said the report will prioritize several treatment options for the city's roadways, including seal coating and hot mix paving in high-traffic areas.

"There are some that are kind of raveling apart pretty bad," Naiser said. Naiser told council the recommended work may be budget driven, and initially costs may be high, but will decrease once maintenance is caught up.

"You can't afford to do it all at one time," Naiser said. "The biggest lump will be in the first 10 years because it's been put off for so long."